



**City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - Draft
Monday, November 15, 2021, 7:00 PM
REMOTE MEETING PARTICIPATION**

NOTE: Please see the published Agenda Packet for all item file attachments

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ellen Burton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Greg Anderson, Bonnie Carter, Don Chaney, Steve Hogan, Shannon Roberts and Melissa Smith

Staff: Bernie Bacon, Jennifer Gorsuch, Cathy Huber Nickerson, Trang Lam, Shawn MacPherson, Robert Maul, Bryan Rachal, Heather Rowley, Jeff Swanson, Nick Swinhart, Connie Urquhart and Steve Wall

Press: No one from the press was present

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kevin Bergstrom, 1210 NE 277th Avenue, Camas, commented about the IAFF Agreement.

Randal Friedman, 1187 NW 10th Avenue, Camas, commented about the Lake Management Plan Agreement Amendment.

Additional public comments received via publiccomments@cityofcamas.us are attached to these minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

NOTE: Consent Agenda items may be removed for general discussion or action.

1. November 1, 2021 Camas City Council Workshop and Regular Meeting Minutes
2. \$1,069,541.48 Automated Clearing House and Claim Checks Numbered 149127 - 149271 which includes: CAP program check run which was issued on 11/4/2021 (ARPA funds)
3. \$128,087.50 September 2021 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Write-off Billings; \$109,926.56 Monthly Uncollectable Balance of Medicare and Medicaid Accounts and \$18,160.94 Ground Emergency Medical Transport funding (Submitted by Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director)

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4. \$105,239.64 October 2021 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Write-off Billings; \$90,975.72 Monthly Uncollectable Balance of Medicare and Medicaid Accounts and \$14,263.92 Ground Emergency Medical Transport funding (Submitted by Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director)
5. Northshore Phase 2 Contract Amendment (Submitted by Robert Maul, Interim Community Development Director)
6. Professional Services Agreement Amendment No. 2, Lake Management Plan, Ph. 2B (Submitted by Steve Wall, Public Works Director)

It was moved by Smith, and seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

7. Staff Miscellaneous Updates
Presenter: Jeff Swanson, Interim City Administrator

Wall provided a storm event report to Council and commented about the upcoming holiday garbage service schedule.

Urquhart informed Council about a Library letter-writing to Camas, Spain event and about participating in the Downtown Camas Association's (DCA) upcoming First Friday event.

Lam commented about the upcoming Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

Maul announced the November 16, 2021 Planning Commission meeting and commented about the North Shore Subarea Plan upcoming tasks.

Rachal commented about the Boards & Commissions citizen-application process and about the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) citizen survey process.

Swanson thanked Mayor Burton for her service to the City.

8. Council

Anderson, Carter, Smith, Chaney, Roberts, Hogan thanked Mayor Burton for her service to the City.

MAYOR

9. Mayor Announcements

Mayor Burton thanked all the Council Members for their help during her tenure.

MEETING ITEMS

10. Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 21-011 Amending the 2021-2022 Budget
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

The public hearing that opened at the November 1, 2021 Council Regular meeting was closed at 7:29 p.m. as no one from the public wished to speak.

Emailed public comments are included at the end of the minutes.

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, that Ordinance No. 21-011 be read by title only. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, that Ordinance No. 21-011 be adopted and published according to law. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Anderson – Aye
Carter – Aye
Chaney – Aye
Hogan – Aye
Roberts – Aye
Smith - Aye**

11. Resolution No. 21-013 Fee Schedule 2022
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

It was moved by Roberts, and seconded, that Resolution No. 21-013 be read by title only. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Roberts, and seconded, that Resolution No. 21-013 be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

12. Public Hearing – Ordinances for Property Tax Levies for General Fund and EMS Fund
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

Mayor Burton opened and closed the public hearing at 7:37 p.m. as no one from the public wished to speak.

Emailed public comments are included at the end of the minutes.

13. Ordinance No. 21-015 Levying the Ad Valorem Taxes for Obligations of the General Fund for 2022
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, that Ordinance No. 21-015 be read by title only. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, to approve Ordinance No. 21-015 to adopt the legal limit of the General Fund Property Tax Levy as authorized by law for 2022, and that it be adopted and published according to law.

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Anderson – Aye
Carter – Aye
Chaney – Nay
Hogan – Aye
Roberts – Nay
Smith - Aye**

14. Ordinance No. 21-016 Levying the Ad Valorem Taxes for the EMS Fund for 2022
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

It was moved by Anderson, and seconded, that Ordinance No. 21-016 be read by title only. The motion carried by a majority vote.

It was moved by Anderson, and seconded, that Ordinance No. 21-016 be adopted and published according to law. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Anderson – Aye
Carter – Aye
Chaney – Aye
Hogan – Aye
Roberts – Nay
Smith - Aye**

15. Public Hearing - Ordinance No. 21-012 Amending 2021-2022 Budget Ordinance No. 20-011
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

Mayor Burton opened and closed the public hearing at 7:54 p.m. as no one from the public wished to speak.

Emailed public comments are included at the end of the minutes.

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, that Ordinance No. 21-012 be read by title only. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, that Ordinance No. 21-012 be adopted and published according to law. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Anderson – Aye
Carter – Aye
Chaney – Aye
Hogan – Aye
Roberts – Aye
Smith - Aye**

16. Tyler Technologies Software as a Service (SaaS) Agreement
Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, to authorize the Mayor, or designee, to sign the agreement with Tyler Technologies. The motion carried unanimously.

17. Collective Bargaining Agreement – City of Camas and IAFF 2021-2023
Presenter: Jennifer Gorsuch, Administrative Services Director

It was moved by Anderson, and seconded, to authorize the Mayor and Interim City Administrator to sign the three-year agreement with IAFF. The motion carried by a majority vote.

18. New Position Descriptions for the Finance Department
Presenter: Jennifer Gorsuch, Administrative Services Director

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, that Resolution No. 21-014 be read by title only. The motion by a majority vote.

It was moved by Carter, and seconded, that Resolution No. 21-014 be adopted. The motion carried by a majority vote.

19. City Clerk Appointment by Mayor
Presenter: Jennifer Gorsuch, Administrative Services Director

It was moved by Hogan, and seconded, to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Bernie Bacon to City Clerk. The motion carried unanimously.

20. Ordinance No. 21-013 Repealing CMC 2.07.010 Relating to City Clerk Position
Presenter: Jennifer Gorsuch, Administrative Services Director

It was moved by Roberts, and seconded, that Ordinance No. 21-013 be read by title only. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Roberts, and seconded, that Ordinance No. 21-013 be adopted and published according to law. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one from the public wished to speak.

Additional public comments received via publiccomments@cityofcamas.us are attached to these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

From: [jillian.jerrolds](#)
To: [Public Comments](#)
Subject: Increase police department funding
Date: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 8:48:57 PM

WARNING: This message originated outside the City of Camas Mail system. DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the content. If you are unsure, click the Phish Alert button to redirect the email for ITD review.

To Whom it May Concern,

I am grateful to have my voice heard concerning the uptick in malicious activity in our community as of late. Three weeks ago both our vehicles were gone through in our driveway while our family slept. This is the first incident of this that I have encountered after 13 years of calling Camas home. Our neighbors had the same thing happen that eve. Businesses are being broken into, trash rummaged through, homes broken into...

Our safe comfortable community has become what seems not as safe as it was. I have noticed that the presence of police has taken a downward turn and I truly believe that their presence makes all the difference in keeping our community safe. I urge you to increase police department funding to take Camas back to the safe, comfortable place it once was. We can do this! Sincerely, Jillian Seth
4435 NW Crystal Ct
Camas WA 98607

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

From: [Rob Herman](#)
To: [Administration Email](#); [Rob Herman](#)
Subject: Increasing Our Police Budget!
Date: Thursday, November 11, 2021 12:25:22 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I would like to respectfully ask that we INCREASE the budget for our police and their department. Our police department is often understaffed which limits their ability to protect and serve our community.

It is also time we start appreciating our wonderful officers instead of hating on them as too many people do. THIS IS NOT SAD PORTLAND!

Sincerely,

Rob P. Herman

Camas resident for 19 years.

From: [Scott G](#)
To: [Public Comments](#)
Cc: [Scott and Karen Gee](#)
Subject: Camas Police Department Funding
Date: Thursday, November 11, 2021 1:06:38 PM

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Our Camas Police Department is the finest Police Department in Clark County. Camas and Vancouver have had an increase in car break-ins, car thefts, parcel theft and mailbox break-in over the last 2 years. When I see one of our officers, I always thank them and ask how they are doing. Three quarters of the time, they say they are understaffed and over worked.

We are having a surge of crime in Camas. **We need to increase the funding for Camas PD.** Portland's defunding of their police department has resulted in an increase in homicides and non-violent crime. Now that crime has come to us via I205.

Thanks!

Scott G.

From: [K.Nelson](#)
To: [Public Comments](#)
Subject: Police Funding
Date: Thursday, November 11, 2021 5:12:04 PM

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As you consider your budget needs for the coming year, please consider the needs of Camas police officers. Officers have a difficult job and need support, both financial and mental health resources. I am a very liberal democrat who appreciates the work of our women and men in blue!

Karen Nelson

From: [Stephanie Millman](#)
To: [Administration Email](#)
Subject: Police Budget
Date: Friday, November 12, 2021 7:12:09 PM

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Hi

I understand you're hearing in the 15th will review the budget and possibly discuss the need for increased police budget. Is there a way we can send in a statement? Or do we need to attend to have our voices heard?

Thank you,

Stephanie Millman PCO 966

From: kittyweb58@gmail.com
To: [Public Comments](#); [Bernie Bacon](#)
Subject: Camas Public Hearing Nov. 15 2022 Budget - Camas Police Department
Date: Saturday, November 13, 2021 8:34:55 AM

WARNING: This message originated outside the City of Camas Mail system. DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the content. If you are unsure, click the Phish Alert button to redirect the email for ITD review.

Good morning,

I am writing as a concerned long-time Camas high school graduate and resident to PLEASE add additional funding for the wonderful and understaffed Camas Police Department. We need additional patrols downtown and in our neighborhoods to deter and stop the awful “smash and grab” that happened to a few of our beloved merchants recently.

Since the local and state governments are doing NOTHING to prevent the onslaught of burglaries and vandalism, PLEASE at least, provide our police a chance to catch the perpetrators. WE/YOU need to keep Camas the wonderful, caring, safe and quaint town we’ve come to expect in our “piece of paradise”.

Please don’t ruin our city by letting thugs and bored vandals run our town. As you know from recent events, the “bad guys” are also coming from other cities and Oregon.

HELP to make the right decision for additional funding to our Camas Police Department!

Thank you for your time,

Concerned Camas Citizen, Lori Weber, CPC

Public Comment – November 13, 2021

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [SCOTT DUER](#)
To: [Public Comments](#)
Subject: Public comments on the Proposed 2022 city budget
Date: Monday, November 15, 2021 1:57:41 PM

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City leaders,

I am unable to attend the Camas budget hearing on zoom this evening. I would like to add my voice to those that are requesting an increase in funding for the Camas Police Department. Specifically we need more personnel to address property crimes. Burglaries of residences and vehicles has to get under control. Porch pirates and mailbox thefts as well. I also do not want to see homeless encampments begin to occur in the city as they are in the rest of the county. If we need more personnel for more serious crimes as well then we definitely need to increase the size of the department.

Sincerely,
Scott Duer
2445 NW Cascade Street
Camas

From: [Stephanie Millman](#)
To: [Bernie Bacon](#)
Subject: Police Budget Public Comment for Council Members
Date: Monday, November 15, 2021 3:12:36 PM

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Re: Commit to our safety

Since you are discussing police budget tonight, I'd like to ask that you make the right decisions to protect our community with the onset of illegal immigration, increased homeless and escalating criminal activities. Though most of my evidence comes from reading/watching the Portland/Vancouver area media, I see an increasing amount of homeless people in Camas and understand that our crime rate keeps increasing. Please consider the following.

1. Add police officers to the payroll.
2. Investment in body cams (they don't have to be that expensive and the ongoing price of video storage and maintenance needs to be planned/accounted for).
3. Have their backs. Make a public written commitment to support law enforcement both financially and culturally. As other city councils are bowing to mobs asking to defund their police, please find ways to move parts of our budget to fund police. As we increase revenues with new businesses moving here, use the money to keep us safe and give it to the police budget.

Respectively submitted,

Stephanie Millman
5904 NW El Rey Drive
Camas, WA 98607

From: mwenofb@aol.com
To: [City Council Members \(GRP\)](#)
Subject: Regarding proposed salary adjustments
Date: Monday, November 15, 2021 9:37:32 PM

WARNING: This message originated outside the City of Camas Mail system. DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the content. If you are unsure, click the Phish Alert button to redirect the email for ITD review.

Dear Council Member,

This note is prompted by a report in the detailing proposed salary increases for non-represented personnel. The proposed 4.5% COLA is appropriate due to the current level of inflation that will likely last through 2022 and into 2023.

I read the proposed salary increases with increasing concern. I understand the consultants survey reflects salaries they consider to be at current levels for similar cities. As a percentage and as whole dollars, implementing them because of the report is not a fiscally sound policy. If there was significant staff turnover (I don't consider the recent Mayor and City Manager relative), then some adjustment might be in order.

It is a well accepted management mantra that for the most part people do not leave for money, they leave because of leadership dissatisfaction. In cases, where job responsibilities change, an adjustment is reasonable. Absent staff turnover, significant increases simply because of a report is not enough justification.

An argument might be made that by not adjusting salaries to the recommended salary levels will result in job dissatisfaction. This could be true unless staff has been apprised of the report and its limitations. What was published in the paper were from and to numbers without comment. Salary surveys are a recruiter's dream.

Not being privy to discussions, I would encourage city management to review each position's job description and determine where there can be increased responsibilities or recognition of performance that went unnoticed. A plan to adjust work responsibilities to a sequence of salary increases until the desired salary for the particular job is reached becomes an action plan that can be budgeted year after year. Simply saying the survey says and handing out cash belongs on TV, not in City governance.

Respectively,

Mark E Swenson
2335 NW 17th Ave
Camas

From: [Andrea Seeley](#)
To: [Public Comments](#)
Subject: Police funding (2)
Date: Monday, November 15, 2021 9:58:18 PM

WARNING: This message originated outside the City of Camas Mail system. DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and are expecting the content. If you are unsure, click the Phish Alert button to redirect the email for ITD review.

I just heard about this email to request more funds for the police here in camas. After seeing what is happening in and around vancouver and Portland with defunding of the police I was horrified to find out that only two officers are on duty at night here. Most crimes are committed in the dark of night and we have gone so far as to cut the police to two officers? What if there were a big emergency? Violent riots? Need for real police presence? This is insane.

I'm seeing posts every day on Nextdoor about my neighbors having cars and garages broken into, had my own car broken into on the few nights it was outside during a remodel. This is a time to increase patrols not cut them. This is why criminals are multiplying all the time, businesses are being broken into and there is no enforcement of any kind of law and order. I fear for what used to feel like a safe town here in camas. People will stop coming here and building Camas if our crime rates continue to grow. Please please do the right thing and increase funding for the Camas PD before it's too late.

Best Wishes,

Andrea Seeley
andreajoy0818@gmail.com

You only have this one short life to live. Make your choices accordingly...

Sent from my iPhone